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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 501295

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dawn Marie Schwarzkopf

Group Art Unit: 3712

Application No: 09/920,676

Examiner: Dmitry Suhol

Filed: August 2, 2001

For: Teaching Apparatus And Method Of Enabling
Use Of Keyboard By Young Children

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SUPPORTING DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

1. I am, first and foremost, a teacher with ten years of classroom teaching experience. I currently serve as an educational technology consultant and president of JimMoulton.org Educational Technology Consulting. I am a frequent lecturer and author of materials that advocate for effective teaching and learning by making technology a tool for results.

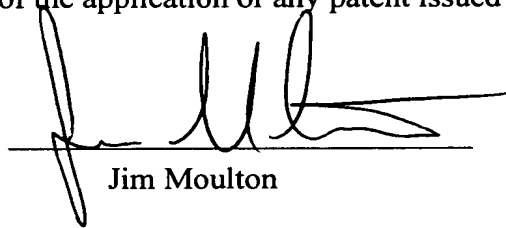
2. In March of 2001, I was a lecturer at the SDE First Grade Teacher Convention in Illinois. During a session break Ms. Dawn Marie Schwarzkopf approached me privately to seek my advice. She explained to me the frustration that her students experience when they first begin using a standard computer keyboard that includes only the upper case letters. As she explained, and as I am well aware, many of these early learners have not yet mastered the association between the upper and lower case letters. As such, Ms. Schwarzkopf explained that many of her students are unable to even log in to the computer because they cannot find the letters of their name on the standard keyboard. Ms. Schwarzkopf then explained that she thought this problem could be resolved by providing a keyboard cover that would allow the students to see both the upper and lower case letters on each key. In this way, Ms. Schwarzkopf explained that the students would more easily find the appropriate key to enter the desired information, and would be aided in their learning of the association between the upper and lower case letters.

3. Ms. Schwarzkopf asked if I had ever seen or if I were aware of such a product. I told Ms. Schwarzkopf that I had never seen such a product as she described and indicated that I thought it was a great idea.

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by

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fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.



Jim Moulton

Dated: 4/12/02

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